IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

1-49.   (Cancelled)

50.   (New) A method for exchanging information within a group of users on a wide area network, comprising the steps of:

serving a topically organized information resource over a wide area network, the information resource comprising a defined topic of information, posts of information from users, and a plurality of links to respective different remote information resources each containing information related to the topic;

receiving user ratings from the users, the user ratings signifying relevance of respective ones of the posts and of the remote information resources to the defined topic, the user ratings determined by respective ones of the users after reviewing respective ones of the posts and of the remote information resources;

aggregating the user ratings to provide aggregate ratings data; and

providing access to the aggregate ratings data in association with the posts of information and with the plurality of links.

51.   (New) The method of Claim 50, further comprising modifying the topically organized information resource to prioritize information according to the aggregate ratings data.

52.   (New) The method according to Claim 50, wherein the serving step further comprises serving the information resource including a vote object configured for providing the users an option to rate the posts according to predetermined rating values.

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53.   (New) The method according to Claim 50, further comprising displaying the posts in a ranked order according to the aggregate ratings data.

54.   (New) The method according to Claim 50, further comprising displaying the plurality of links in a ranked order according to the aggregate ratings data.

55.   (New) The method according to Claim 50, further comprising compiling the user ratings for subject matter received from a specific source to provide source-associated rating data.

56.   (New) The method according to Claim 55, further comprising ranking a plurality of information sources according to the source-associated rating data for each source.

57.   (New) The method according to Claim 55, further comprising providing the users an option to receive the source-associated rating data for each user that has provided subject matter to the topically organized information resource.

58.   (New) The method according to Claim 55, further comprising receiving preference information from the users, wherein the preference information specifies a threshold criteria for filtering the posts according to the source-associated rating data applied to the contributor of each post of the posts.

59.   (New) The method according to Claim 50, further comprising presenting the plurality of links on a menu of a web page.

60.   (New) The method according to Claim 59, further comprising presenting the plurality links grouped in a corresponding plurality of menus of the web page, wherein each of the plurality of menus contains links pertaining to a category of information.

61.　(New)　The method according to Claim 50, further comprising serving at least one of the respective different remote information resources comprising a second defined topic of information, a second plurality of posts of information from users, and a second plurality of links to respective different remote information resources each containing information related to the second topic.

62.　(New)　The method according the Claim 50, further comprising ranking the plurality of links according to a measured use of ones of the plurality of links.

63.　(New)　The method according to Claim 62, further comprising performing an action selected from adding a link to the plurality of links, and deleting a link from the plurality of links, according to a ranking determined in the ranking step.

64.　(New)　The method according to Claim 50, further comprising receiving preference information from the users, wherein the preference information specifies a threshold criteria for filtering the posts according to the aggregate ratings data.

65.　(New)　The method according to Claim 64, further comprising serving an interactive tolerance bar for providing the users an option to send the preference information.

66.　(New)　The method according to Claim 50, further comprising serving at the respective different remote information resources each comprising at least one link back to the information resource.

67.　(New)　The method according to Claim 66, further comprising ranking the plurality of links according to measured activity of the at least one link back on the different remote information resources.

68.　(New)　The method according to Claim 50, further comprising defining a plurality of topics for the posts of information, and storing the topics in the memory.

69.   (New) The method according to Claim 68, further comprising grouping the posts in a plurality of topically organized interlinked information resources according to the rating data, wherein each of the interlinked information resources comprises posts relevant to one of the plurality of topics.